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1876". After suggesting a number of causes for their failure, he concludes "The fundamental cause for the failure of the movement, however, seems to have been . . . the innate political conservatism of the bulk of the American people." The last of these Western history studies is Professor H. C. Hockett's "Federalism and the West", which is a most interesting study of the fate of the Federalist party in the frontier states. "Its conservative and aristocratic temper . . . and its peculiarly commercial basis, unfitted it for expansion into regions where only society of a primitive agricultural type flourished." Nevertheless, "the Federalists erred in believing the societies of east and west to be permanently dissimilar. They were so only during the immaturity of the west." The two Southern history studies are "Virginia and the Presidential Succession, 1840-1844", wherein Professor C. H. Ambler studies closely the struggle in Virginia to secure the nomination of Van Buren in 1844, pointing out the reason of the failure, and a closely related study, "The Southern Whigs, 1834-1854", by Professor U. B. Phillips. Lack of space forbids us to comment upon this latter essay as it deserves, but, in brief, it contains the essence of a vast amount of intensive study, involving the plotting, county by county, of election returns, and of census studies of industrial interests. It is one of the most valuable studies in a volume wherein the scholarship is everywhere of so high a character as to make it a fitting tribute "to Frederick Jackson Turner, teacher, scholar, friend".

C. H. VAN TYNE.

The Buccaneers in the West Indies in the XVII. Century. By C. H. HARING. (New York: E. P. Dutton and Company. 1910. Pp. viii, 298.)

THIS is the first book to attempt critical treatment of a subject obscured by much loose writing and cheap romance. Historians of the West Indies have either been too susceptible to the picturesqueness of the buccaneers, or contented themselves with a display of civic disapproval of drunkenness and disorderly conduct. The object of this volume, according to the author's prefatory statement, is, first, to give an authentic account of the great West Indian buccaneers and pirates, and, second, "to trace the policy pursued toward them by the English and French Governments".

On the first count there is little fault to be found with the reconstruction of events. From the voluminous correspondence in the *Calendar of State Papers* between the Secretaries of State and the English governors in the Indies, supplemented by manuscripts in the Record Office and the British Museum, and by the rather scanty yield of French archives, the story is traced clearly and with a good deal of entertaining detail. Much new material—particularly for the English side of the story, which receives the lion's share of attention—has been brought to light by Mr.

Haring's research. An introductory chapter sketches briefly the history of the Indies to the beginning of the seventeenth century and explains the cumbrous machinery by which Spain tried to control the commerce of her colonies. Thereafter, the author deals successively with the three great strongholds of piracy, Tortuga, Jamaica, and Hispaniola, from which sailed the fleets that brought ruin to the rich towns of the Main.

In explaining the statecraft that underlay the long immunity of the buccaneers from punishment, Mr. Haring is somewhat general and summary. That they were encouraged by both England and France is clear, and undoubtedly the reasons concerned commerce and the defense of the colonies, but this is not getting below the surface. What accounts for the fact that the Englishmen in the Indies were forced to keep the Peace of 1670, while the Spanish broke it with impunity? Who stood behind the enterprise of the French buccaneers—merely the governors of Hispaniola, or the French West India Company, or the Grand Monarque himself? When the Spanish archives have been investigated this part of the story will be nearer complete. Mr. Haring has had access only to the printed *Colección de Documentos Inéditos*, which for the seventeenth century is little help. It is to be hoped too that more of the French official correspondence will some day be unearthed.

A few minor criticisms and objections present themselves: The author does not seem to discriminate between the expeditions of men-of-war, privateers, and pirates. If the attacks on the Main by Vice-Admiral Goodson and Captain Myngs during Cromwell's war with Spain are regarded as buccaneering, so too must be Admiral Vernon's attempts on Porto Bello and Cartagena in 1739.

Of the French buccaneers Mr. Haring says (p. 240): "They were not ordinary privateers, for they waged war without authority." But on the same page he admits: "The buccaneers almost invariably carried commissions from the governors of French Hispaniola." In which case they *were* privateers, as the word included all sailing under such commissions of reprisal, as well as actual private men-of-war. The tenths of prizes went not to the crown (p. 200) but to the lord high admiral. A quotation covering twenty-five pages from a book as well-known as Esquemeling's *Bucaniers* is a rather unnecessary sacrifice of space.

To quibble on points like these is to admit the excellence of the book. It is beyond question a scholarly and accurate handling of the most dramatic feature in the history of the Indies.

VIOLET BARBOUR.

Acts of the Privy Council of England, Colonial Series. Volume III.,

A. D. 1720-1745. Edited through the direction of the Lord President of the Council by W. L. GRANT, M.A., Professor of Colonial History in Queen's University, Canada, and James MUNRO, M.A., Beit Lecturer in Colonial History in the University of Oxford, under the general supervision of Sir ALMERIC